

SAN DIEGO COUNTY'S GARDEN MAGAZINE SINCE 1909

# California GARDEN

35 Cents

JUNE-JULY

Vol. 54, No. 3

1963

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## ... garden chores ...

webbed or deformed, aphids and a variety of mites are using them for motels, especially in citrus trees. Caterpillars set up their tents in willows and elms while cut worms have a field day in dichondra. Ants make freeways everywhere. Leaf hoppers and white fly fill the airways. If the garden is large, a professional job two or three times a year will really pay off. If it is small the gardener should seek and follow his nurseryman's advice faithfully.

### FEED MONTHLY

Feed the general garden once a month during the growing season. Chrysanthemums and carnations are greedy for liquid nourishment every two weeks. Azaleas hunger for acid food. Fertilize established lawns before watering. Follow with a good soaking. A fertilizer low in nitrogen promotes flowers rather than lush growth.

### PRUNE IN JUNE

Pruning is always in order. All shrubs and trees, grown for spring flowers, should be cut back to promote new wood for next year. When acanthus is through blooming prune it almost to the ground. Azaleas may be shaped in June. Cut out old bamboo canes in the clump. All marguerites and felicias should be cut back hard after each spell of bloom. Pick off the spent flowers on geraniums and pelargoniums and cut back the thin growth. Let gladiolus leaves turn brown before removing. Vines, especially rampant types like bougainvilleas, should have old canes removed. Long runners on wisterias can be pruned to the main stem. Overgrown trees should be thinned or cut back but please, PLEASE, cut each branch off so it blends into the trunk where it originated. *Never leave a stub.* Large cuts should be sealed.

Mondo and blu fescu grass come up fresh after a clipping, but don't give maidenhair a bobbing, pick out the dead stems. Pink Powder Puff and Honey-bush are big growers that benefit from vigorous pruning. Side shoots on show mums should be removed and disbudding started. If they are grown for mass color cut back half way in June and be sure there are no suckers at the bottom. Stake tall plants of all kinds.

### REPOTTING IRIS

Inland gardeners should wait for cooler weather before dividing bearded iris. Elsewhere, when crowded, they should be dug and separated in July. Plant in a sunny place with good drainage. Add superphosphate and bonemeal to the soil. Use only the new outside rhizomes, discarding the center. Cut off any soft spots and dust with sulphur. Cut the leaves back to about three inches. Make a hollow in the ground with a hump in the middle and set the roots astride the ridge. Cover and firm down well, leaving the rhizome about an inch under the soil instead of on top. Water well until established, then keep a little on the dry side.

Treat yourself to the newer, much-branched iris, with ruffled falls and amazing colors. Some rebloom twice or more. An Escondido grower has brought renown to San Diego County by winning the Iris Hybridizer's Medal. Show your local pride by



## ... garden chores ...

ordering some of his big beauties that are bred to succeed under local conditions, without the set-back that may happen to stock from other places.

July is the *only* month to divide amaryllis. Gardenias and palms can be moved now. It is time to plant all sub-tropicals, such as citrus and hibiscus. The latter wants the warmest place in the garden. Water new plants well and protect the trunks from sunburn. Transplant acanthus after blooming.

Root soft-wood cuttings in June. Pelargoniums, geraniums, carnations and begonias root well in sand or spong-rok.

### SEED PLANTING

Seeds of beans planted in June may outstrip those started in April. In July sow seeds of fall and winter annuals, such as stock, snaps and pansies. They are easier to care for if planted in flats. Dig a lot of manure into the ground for sweetpeas that will be planted in August.

### RIOTOUS COLOR

June and July bring a riot of garden color. Phlox, verbenas, and all kinds of marigolds and zinnias are gay in the sun. Give good circulation around the latter to avoid mildew. Ageratum supplies lavender-blue. Petunias sing a summer-long barber-shop chorus of color. Look for the new cascade type. There is a dwarf cockscomb that looks attractive, and a low bedding begonia, called Flamingo, with red picot edges on green leaves, around rosy flowers with white centers. Shasta and Transvaal daisies are sun lovers that bloom from May to October, if the flowers are picked. Plant the gerberas high, in good soil and feed well. Delphiniums are spires of grace in color and form, fine to cut and come again. Aster frikarti and Michaelmas daisies, the ever-blooming blue felicia and pink, white and yellow marguerites make long-lasting pinwheels of color. Look for the tall perennial salvia that has thin wands of true blue flowers. It dies down completely in winter but makes taller and handsomer towers of blue mist each year. Hebe (Veronica) Hugh Evans or Rubrum has purple-tipped leaves that are wonderful to use in arrangements. Later it has spikes of deep purple bloom.

Among shade plants, coleus is lively, lovely with ferns. Impatiens is easy and attractive. The blue Wishbone Flower, torenia, is utterly lovely. Mimulus, the Monkey Flower intrigues with yellow flowers spotted with maroon. There are many types of hydrangeas, blue, white and pink, American, French and Chinese, all real treasures to brighten up the dark spots. Edge the bed with graceful streptocarpus and glowing gloxinias. There are several varieties of blue and white campanulas, fine for hanging baskets. As a ground cover, *Campanula porscharkyana* (that's hard on false teeth!) gives the same soft lavender-blue effect in the shade as does *Nepeta mussini*, in the sun.

### LAVENDER TUFTS

*Tulbaghia violacea*, "Society Garlic" has tufts of lavender flowers among long narrow sheathing leaves, about nine months of the year. This bulbous-rooted plant divides any time. The garlic scent is only noted when the leaves are crushed. Daylilies

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## . . . garden chores . . .

begin their long flowering season now. They are excellent for cutting. Select some of the superior ones with large fluted petals and rich color tones. They are another specialty of Tom Craig, in Escondido. They may be planted whenever it is convenient. Lily-of-the-Nile is in its prime in June. The big umbels of flowers, in shades of pure white to deep blue, on tall or dwarf stems, have dark evergreen strap leaves. They may not bloom the first year after planting.

### GARDENIAS

June is gardenia season. They thrive in warm inland climates, given excellent drainage and acid soil. Mulch, instead of cultivating the surface roots, but do not bury the crown. Give a balanced fertilizer and iron chelates if the leaves show yellow. They are subject to many pests. *Gardenia thunbergia*, the variety with a long-tubed flower that ends in a flat whorl of petals, smells just as sweet and is much easier to grow than its popular sister.

### GERANIUMS

Geraniums of every kind give masses of summer color if the blooms are picked. Collectors have a field day with the fancy-leaved and scented varieties that can be raised better here than anywhere else. Do not overlook pelargoniums. They are as colorful as azaleas and are also good for cut flowers. The newer varieties have large heads of ruffled blooms. Dawn, a flesh pink, is a great favorite. There is a wide color range in these Martha Washingtons. Their flower season is long in the fog area, they might like some shade in the back country.

Everyone stopped for a closer look and a sniff of the extensive exhibit of herbs shown by the Pratts of Road Runner Ranch, which helped the SDFA entry to win a first at the Del Mar Fair last year. No proper gardener should be without herbs both for beauty and scent as well as tongue-teasing flavor. For cooking use, pick just before they flower. If you are a geranium or herb collector take a trip to Vista to see how handsome these plants are when growing in the ground.

Large shrubs and vines, besides bougainvillea, are in full color, for summer. There is the blue Skyflower, clematis in several shades, and the fascinating Passion Flower vine. Plumbago, hibiscus and oleanders carry the honors for large shrubs.

### TREE COLOR, TOO

Then we look upwards for color in trees. There is the strange green of the Palo Verde, with fluffy little lemon flowers. It does well in the desert or at the seashore. The Sweet-shade tree adds floating fragrance to the beauty of its creamy flowers. It grows slowly and gracefully. The New Zealand Christmas tree shows clusters of red stamen among the silvery green leaves, mindful of the flowering eucalyptus about this same time. Look for the lacy Markhamia with clusters of yellow cups riding high. There is a loquat whose bronze-tipped foliage gives a fine accent. The beloved Jacaranda, with its rosy lilac flowers, outdoes them all. It is sometimes afflicted with aphids that keep the leaves from unfolding and the flowers from budding. An early spray will prevent this.



## 50 YEARS AGO in CALIFORNIA GARDEN

July, 1911

Editor Robinson's resolution at the end of the second year of *California Garden*:

"We shall publish instructions for raising flowers, month by month, so simple that he who runs may read and we shall call a spade a spade and shove it in the ground wherever we see weeds."

June, 1913

The May Rose Show in the McFadden - Buxton Arcade, a new downtown location, was "so conveniently near that the public could attend without exerting itself overmuch. The mammoth floor space for once gave the superintendent, Miss Rainford, enough room to display the exhibits without the necessity of having a knowledge of Chinese puzzles at the same time. It also allowed space to be set aside for the musical programs and sections for the displays of our advertisers, besides leaving room for dancing for those who wished to avail themselves of the excellent orchestra music both afternoon and evening."

July, 1913

Resolution of the editor, Alfred D. Robinson, at the end of the fourth year of *California Garden*:

"Really, *California Garden* is growing up! Its subscribers are not willing that it shall sing its little swan song, 'Now I lay me down to sleep,' just yet . . . The reading of the numerous replies to the request for an honest opinion as to its right to live, has been most encouraging. Of course there have been good-natured suggestions as to its shortcomings, and there have been rumors of those who will compass its downfall by resigning their subscription.

"These latter add the spice of humor that is necessary to save any situation, and the humor lies in the fact that if anyone gets anything out of the magazine it is the subscriber. The executive staff have to put something in. Let us not be misunderstood. We do not undervalue the effect upon the work we are trying to do of a single subscriber.

"We know that San Diego needs

this little monthly flower in its garden of print and also that, from its modest nature, it is bound to bloom unseen and unread by the great majority. But what of that? If the majority were with us our work would be done. It is because our ideals are those of the little minority that we have a right to existence . . ."

"May we be forgiven if we dare to assume that the subscribers to the *California Garden* have duties that they owe to the magazine? They should realize that beyond the mere selfish question of whether it is worth its subscription price is the much larger matter of whether they believe it is doing a work worth while in the building of a beautiful city, and also that it is a wholesome influence, a leaven of sincerity and honesty in our journalistic loaf.

"Do they regard their subscription as the dues to a society whose only pledge is one to themselves, their better selves, to help raise the standard of the community in this one particular of beautiful growing things, if in nothing else? If there be any of this feeling it will dictate an effort to spread the work, to give others the chance to join in it.

"'A lot of bother just about flowers and a dinky little magazine,' you think, no doubt, but just one tree in the Garden of Eden on just one occasion made history that has created a stir ever since, right through the ages. . . . Does the work of the Floral Association and the *California Garden* stop with just the raising of a better or an additional flower, or does the act imply something far deeper and more lasting?"

**LAWN BROWNING:** *If you see a dark "smoke-ring" appearance around the outer edges of the brown spot, you can correctly diagnose brown patch fungus, an unpleasant infection most apt to set in during periods of high humidity.*

*Fight it by cutting down on nitrogen feeding during the period that the fungus is present, and by immediately applying a fungicide. However, you must use a different type from that used for roses. Ask your nurseryman for advice.*

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## You Need a Good Line To Make Arrangements

By Vera Thacher

FLOWER arrangement is a fleeting art in that its beauty is short lived and individual arrangements are almost never repeated exactly. Its perishable materials are at their peak sometimes for only a few hours. So for this reason it is always new and ever changing.

Many books have been written on the subject and all agree on one tenet, that the elements of design should be observed and understood. In this article I shall speak of just one, LINE (which is defined as the usual path along which the eye is led in natural and logical sequence) is only one small phase of its development for to try to give a Flower Arranging lesson in a nutshell, a few lines or 10 easy lessons is impossible.

Taking lessons is the best way to begin. Books, pictures and shows can be helpful but trends change and as the arranger improves he views with a more practiced eye, what used to satisfy now becomes ordinary. An understanding of the basic fundamentals gives you confidence and a clearer understanding of the goals to be achieved.

A knowledge of horticulture is most important. To know it best is to grow it and next best is to use and experiment with it. Profiting by another's experience is good but lacks the firm imprint of your own doing.

Here are just a few of the things



you need to know about horticultural material:

1. How long will this material last after cutting?
2. Are the stems strong, soft or brittle?
3. How long will it need to remain in deep water for hardening?
4. Will the flower heads stay erect after cutting?
5. How much artificial control is necessary?
6. Will the material bend without breaking and stay in required positions?
7. How much do I need to cut and what length, etc.?

Horticultural variety isn't always necessary but a few well chosen plants in the garden to supply the basic needs will give you ready material to experiment with and create when the idea comes to you for it is then you do your best work.

The accompanying photos are pure line with balance and proportion in good relation to the container. Flowers have been omitted in one so the arranger may use his own imagination when additions are made, be it flowers or foliage. The arranger could also experiment with a basic material other than the New Zealand Flax used here; try pussy willow, iris leaves, watsonia, bamboo or any slender material, even to changing the positions always keeping in mind balance and design.

Line material can be varied—it





Arrangements and photos by  
Mary Jane Hershey.

need not always be as shown but in this short article I can stress just this one position.

The three pieces of flax have been firmly placed in a Kenzon, commonly called a pin frog.

A good pin frog should be heavy with brass pins closely placed. The brass pins stay sharp and do not rust so while the holder may seem expensive it will always be a pleasure to use. A poor holder can be a real frustration.

A simple unadorned container in an earthy color is best for the beginner for then it will blend rather than compete with the plant material.

The one used here is a simple footed bowl, medium brown in color, deep enough to hold sufficient water—of medium size—about 8 inches in diameter suitable for most any location in any type home.

In the completed arrangement Mrs. Hershey used Rubra or red New Zealand Flax with three Queen Elizabeth roses which are a vibrant pink. In any color, roses or other flowers would be harmonious in this simple arrangement.

My hope is that in this short article I shall have inspired someone to try their hand with arranging and enjoy the pleasures of working with nature.



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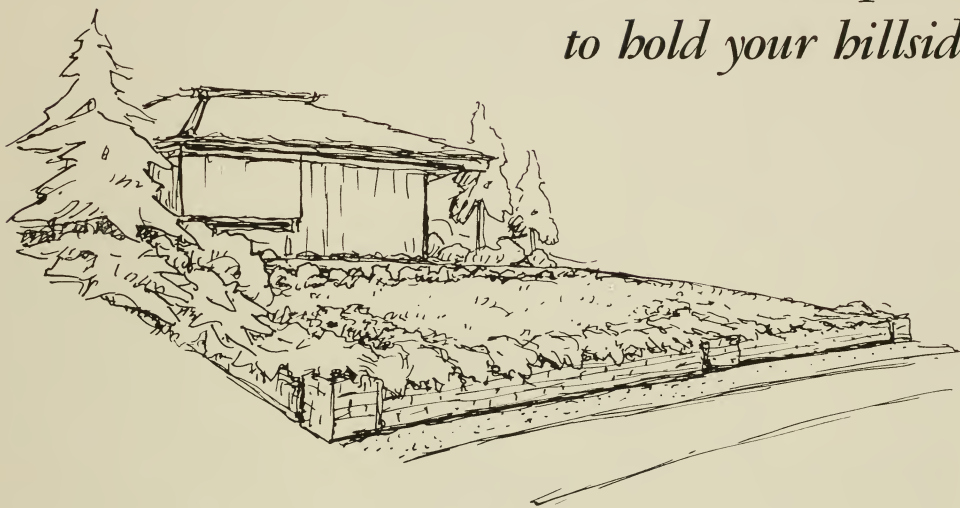
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# California Garden

JUNE-JULY, 1963

*some  
suggestions  
besides iceplant  
to hold your hillside*



By Alice M. Clark

SAN DIEGO has always been a city of hills with superb views of mountains and sea. Originally these hills were not too much of a problem as the streets were contoured without disturbing the soil and the beautiful native chaparral already established there could carry on.

Now an "educated" bulldozer takes over and, in nothing flat, chews out a hillside into a series of pyramid bases of sterile earth and stones.

These call upon every ounce of ingenuity on the part of each home owner, not only to clothe the harsh surface with some kind of verdure, but to anchor his "rise" in such a way that it will not slide on to the neighbor's section in the first heavy rain. A drive through these climbing subdivisions is a study in American individualism. So diverse

are the results that awards should be given for trying, if not for esthetic success. Ironically, the gardeners who take the easy way out by using the ubiquitous sea fig iceplant, seem to come up with the most restful though very dull answer.

Holding a bank with plants alone is never truly dependable. A series of setback terraces of concrete block, brick, stone or the angular retaining block that requires no mortar and which provides pockets for plants will safely check erosion, but it requires an intelligent selection of plant materials to create a pleasing picture. Suggestions along those lines will be forthcoming.

This article is not concerned with soil treatment. That is an important problem to be solved properly before planting begins. There will be no analysis of ajuga, chamomile, cinquefoil, Korean grass or wild

strawberry, all of which are sometimes used for large slopes but which are better employed to provide transitions from shrubs to the lawns or walks. Ice plants, both coarse and fine, are omitted because they are well-known. Other succulents and cacti, which combine well with them, are left out because they belong to a specialized field. There are some good innovations in the Iceplant family that should be examined in the nurseries.

Also, look for a new ground cover, not for traffic, that everyone should know *Polygonum capitatum*, with the descriptive common name of Pink Clover Blossom, is a low trailer with unusual bronzy foliage. A self-sower, it has a surge of pinky-tan color all the time. It caught the last freeze but came back good as ever. Another newcomer is the bright red-flowering Peruvian Verbena. A rapid strong



grower of some hardness, fine for those who love a blaze of color.

Before considering individual plants, it is well to realize that the general picture, especially if it has a view, is always enhanced by one or more trees, with large spreading shrubs beneath or near them. Care should be taken to see that these shrubs blend into the smaller plants on the main slope, instead of being dotted around like plums in a pudding. Too many varieties or colors of plant materials make a hill look "busy" rather than restful. The latter is a feeling our gardens should strive for in this feverish age.

In the plant combinations about to be discussed, rearrangements can be made to suit, with the one provision that the plants should all thrive under the same soil and weather conditions. To help in these decisions, a list is appended, giving detailed information about the plants in this article, as well as other good extras, but omitting trees and large shrubs.

Following are some plant combinations for special hillside cases. Consider first a home-like illustration—with red brick retaining walls which limit the color scheme. Evergreens go well with bricks. Try Juniper "Tam" in the large center section. Face it down on the bottom row with the smaller, graceful, low-growing Shore Juniper. If there is room, a Deodor or Canary Island Pine makes a handsome accent at the top. Two Incense Cedars will balance the rear right side. Against the front of the upper terrace a row of the new prostrate *Pyracanthus Santa Cruz* can show off their red berries. Repeat a few of these inside the corners and the middle of the lower front to relieve the monotony of the junipers. Their white bloom will be a spring attraction. The ground cover next to the lower and upper sidewalks could well be the wild strawberry. Instead of the big pine you might use Liquidambar, whose leaves turn red before they fall, or the gray-leaf New Zealand Christmas tree, with red-stamen flowers in June, or even the red-flowering eucalyptus. If you should consider a tall Purple Plum change the low ground cover to Bronze Ajuga. In place of the two cedars plant Strawberry Trees, *Arbutus, unedo*, for a close look at their warty red fruits. Choose Natal Plums from several

## CHOOSE YOUR PLANTING FROM THIS COMPLETE LIST

*Asparagus sprengeri*, Asparagus Fern. 18" withstands 20° to 30°. Rapid, vigorous, verdant evergreen. Takes sun or shade, extremes of drought or heat. Tiny fragrant pink flowers in summer, red berries later. Plant 1'-2' apart.

*Baccharis pilularis*, Coyote Bush. 6" to 12", 10° to 20°. Evergreen native, when established, becomes verdant spreading green fall for dry moist banks. Deep roots drought resistant. Does not require fertilizer. Plant 2' to 8' apart.

*Bougainvillea* var. Crimson Jewel. 30°-40°. New bush variety. Glowing red flowers smother the bush.

*Bougainvillea* Var. Temple Fire. Older red in bush form. Fast grower. Bougainvillea need the warmest location possible. Taper off on water in fall to harden against frost. Bush type easier to control on a bank because of thorny difficulty of pruning large vine type.

*Carissa grandiflora*, Natal Plum. 1'-2', 30° to 40°. Several prostrate forms. Tender, dense, shiny green leaves. Sharp thorns an advantage in some places. Fragrant white flowers, summer. Handsome red fruits later. Takes heat or fog, sun or shade, most soils. Don't overwater in heavy soil.

Var. Tuttlei and Green Carpet both good. Plant 3' to 6' apart.

*Ceanothus gloriosus*. Point Reyes Creeper 15". 10° to 20°. A prostrate shrub that sends out straight boughs, fountainwise, covered with medium size dark shining holly-edged leaves. Light blue spring flowers.

*Ceanothus griseus horizontalis*, Carmel Creeper. 12". 10° to 20°. A low grower with rough round lighter green leaves on boughs that curve and hug the ground. Deep true blue flower clusters in spring. Both types like sandy soil, take little water when established. Good bank covers, but short lived. Spread 5'. Plant 3' apart.

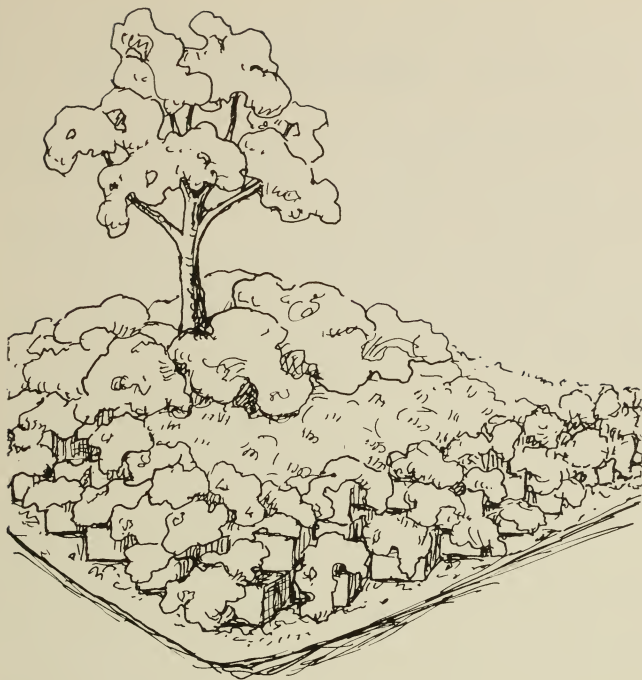
*Cerastium tomentosum*, Snow-in-Summer. 4"-6". -50° to -35°. Low spreading perennial with whitish gray foliage. Best in sun. Drought resistant. Easy. Untidy if overwatered. Sheer after bloom. 18"-24" apart.

*Chorizema varium*, Flame Pea Shrub. 2'. 20° to 30°. Graceful long stems of dark green holly leaves. Sun or partial shade. Unusual orange-red pea-shape flowers fine for winter bloom. Prune after bloom and rest with less water in summer.

*Ceratostigma plumbaginoides larpentiae*, Dwarf Plumbago. 6"-12." 5° to 10°. Spreading perennial good near ocean. Produces bright blue phlox-like flowers in the shade from June to November. Bronzy green foliage turns yellow, then red in cold, then they fall. Tolerates drought, will take some sun with more water. Spreads underground.

*Cistus corbariensis*, White Rock Rose. 2'-3'. 10° to 20°. Dull green crinkled leaves, many ivory-white single flowers early summer. Other colors available. Likes sun, loose gravelly soil and not too much water. Not good in clay. Seashore o.k. Spreads to 4'.

*Convolvulus cneorum*, Bush Morning Glory. 2'-4'. 5° to 10°.



Dwarf form available. Likes full sun and perfect drainage. Silvery foliage with masses of pink buds and white flowers May to September.

*Convolvulus Mauritanicus*, Ground Morning Glory. 12". 20° to 30°. Prostrate perennial with 1" lavender-blue flowers June to November. Fast, spreads 3' across. Likes more moisture.

*Cotoneaster decora*, Necklace Cotoneaster. 12"-15". -10° to -5°. A low spreading evergreen with small green leaves and bright red berries in the fall. Likes heavy soil, if drained, sun and wind. Spreads 6' to 8'.

*Delasperma alba*, White Iceplant. 6"-8". 20° to 30°. One of the best trailer types to cover difficult slopes. Triangular leaves, small white flowers. Plant 12" to 18" apart.

*Felicia* var. Santa Anita, Blue Marguerite. 12"-24". 30°. Sun and gravelly soil, not too much water. Solid mass of sky blue daisies hide the foliage. Spreads 3' to 4'. Comes back after each cutting. Does not seem to seed or root, spreads from center.

*Gazania uniflora leucoleana*, Trailing gazania. 6"-10". 20° to 30°. Silver gray foliage spreads rapidly in sun, if well watered. Daisy flowers in yellow, white and bronze all year. They close at night. Take fairly poor soil. Plant 18" to 24" apart.

*Hedera canariensis*, Algerian Ivy. 12"-15". 20° to 30°. Large shining green, or variegated leaves. Rapid and dependable, once started. Deep roots hold soil and reroot. Likes sun and heat, food and water. Plant 15" to 18" apart. Much used.

*Hedera belix*, English Ivy. 12". -10° to 5°. Hardest ivy. Smaller,

prostrate *Carissa grandiflora* varieties, to replace the junipers on the slope and let Star Jasmine scent the air where the pyracanthas held forth. Ivy or white honeysuckle would make other good ground covers.

In case the retaining walls are concrete block, eye-stopping *Ceanothus Sierra Blue*, could sing a high blue note in March and April as a background tree. A *Jacaranda* on the left would be a blue echo later. The small crinkled leaves of the ever-green *Ceanothus Consuelo*, with trusses of bright blue, make a nice transition between the lacy *Jacaranda* and the round-leaved, light-green foliage of the *Ceanothus Carmel Creeper*, which serves as a splendid slope cover and also gives another bonus of deep blue blooms. The all-green long-lasting Coyote Bush, *Baccharis Pilularis* would be equally good here.

Let a very few plants of the almost ever-blooming *Felicia Santa Anita*, spread their blue daisies against the top wall and in the lower corners. If that seems too much blue, use some vines of *Hibbertia*, *Golden Guinea*, to clamber over the upper wall and the lower reaches. Plants from the red brick scheme could shift to gray blocks with ease.

For the pointed blocks with planters shown in the sketch—all of the combinations just mentioned will serve, plus many more. The three lower tiers in the drawing may be treated as a rock wall. Fill the pockets with *Convolvulus mauritanicus*, Ground Morning Glory, for a fluff of blue on soft green from June through November. Leave a stair of pockets open, here and there, for plants of the whitish-gray, white-flowered *Snow-in-Summer*, which starts to bloom a little earlier. It is a sun lover that needs little care, except an occasional pruning. Plant the lower slope to Prostrate Rosemary, a fine filler, with a lavender blooming period in the spring. This same ground cover is also excellent to use in a long high planter wall as it soon looks like a fine green bank. The plant is drought resistant but the spaces in the retainers will dry out fast, so watch the moisture.

In this same sketch the blocks of the upper two tiers are hidden by several clumps of Bush Morning Glory, *Convolvulus Cneorum*, a silvery-leaf shrub covered with pink



buds and white flowers for long periods. They blend into grayish-green mounds of White Rock Rose, *Cistus Cobariensis*, growing on the tree terrace. That tree might be a New Zealand Christmas Tree, *Metrosideros tomentosa*, which has red stamen flowers in June, or the graceful, airy Sweet Shade, *Hymenoporum flavum*, whose yellowish honey-scented blooms appear at the same time.

For another combination chose *Callistemon lanceolatum*, the Bottle-brush Tree, whose brilliant red blooms could be softened by the bronzy-green leaves of the handsome large evergreen shrub. *Xylosma senticosum* below it. Tuck in plants of the Bush Flame Pea, *Chorizema varium*, in flower from late winter to spring. Its dark holly-like leaves offer fine contrast to fluffy gray foliage of another slope cover, or pocket filler, *Lotus berthelotti*. The shape of its red flowers give it the common name, Parrots Beak. It blooms the same time as the Bottle-brush, from May to July. Cool all these warm colors with a few vines of *Jasminum magnificum*, Angel Wings, whose whorls of fragrant white flowers emerge from many reddish buds and bright green leaves.

In the sketch an olive tree with an informal slope treatment is pictured. It would lend itself to large gray rocks over-spread with redberry necklaces of dull-leaved *Cotoneaster decora*. Some of the new *Raphiolepis* Springtime, would enhance the early spring color. Where there is ample room, at the top of a slope, let the wonderful huge sprawling Pink Powder Puff, *Calliandra inaequaliteris*, flaunt her fascinating blooms from October to March. For this combination cover the hillside with patented Lantana, Pink Frolic or the grey-green foliage of the new hybrid trailing white Gazania.

The olive tree could key a gray

---

**INSECT PESTS:** *Japanese beetles, chinchbugs and sod webworms can be controlled with sprays or dusts containing chlordane, dieldrin, DDT or lead arsenate (be very careful of the last). To control grubs in soil, it's only necessary to use once a year.*

darker leaves make nice pattern. Takes shade or sun, where it needs more water. Fast. 1' to 2' apart.

*Hedera helix habni*, Hahns Ivy. 8"-12". -5° to 5°. Smaller leaves give softer effect, easier to confine. Needs shade inland, sun on coast. Plant 1' to 2' apart. Many other varieties.

*Helicbrysum petiolatum*, Cudflower. 2'. Woolly-white foliage fine in salt wind, any soil in sun. Rampant grower, should be sheered after flowering. Good for banks.

*Hibbertia volubilis*, Guinea Gold Vine. 30° to 40°. Large single golden flowers against deep green leaves in warm months. Vigorous in half shade. Watch for thrip and red spider.

*Hypericum calycinum*, Aaron's Beard. 12"-15". -5° to 5°. Thick roots hold steep banks, but it is invasive. Needs water. More controlled in shade. Large single yellow flowers in summer. 12" to 15" apart.

*Jasminum magnificum*, Angel Wing Jasmine. 12". 20° to 30°. Semi-vining evergreen of great charm. Large green leaves, flowers with pinkish buds, fragrant clusters of white pin-wheel blooms. Adaptable. 24" part.

*Juniperus conferta*, Shore Juniper. 12". -10° to -5°. Billowing light-green spreader needle leaves, fine for seashore, rather than inland. Good for low finish on bank. Fast and low to 10'. Plant 3' apart.

*Juniperus sabina tamariscifolia*, Tamarix Juniper. 18". -20° to -10°. Fine, light-green needle and scale foliage. Flowing mounds spread to 15'. Slower, but rewarding. Set 3 1/2'. Most popular. Chose many other excellent named varieties.

*Lantana montividentis*, Trailing Lantana. 18"-24". 20° to 30°. A rapid trailer that needs warmth, water and sheering back to keep its lilac purple flowers in good fettle. Will stand drought, but too often neglected. Hard color to use. Combine with other greens. 1 1/2' to 2'.

*Lantanas*, Many new varieties—a new white form of the above, as well as compact dwarfs in many colors.

*Lonicera japonica balliana*, Hall's Japanese Honeysuckle. 18"-24". -10° to -5°. Fine for large confined space. Fast, vigorous in full sun, any soil. Fragrant white flowers turn yellow later. Loses leaves in cold.

*Lotus berthelotti*, Parrots Beak. 18"-24". 30° to 40°. Fluffy, thready, silvery leaves good foil for scarlet to orange beak-like flowers, in summer. Needs good drainage and full sun. 2' to 3'.

*Lotus tenuis*. Prostrate Birdsfoot Trefoil. 12". 10°. A legume recommended by UCLA for starved, poorly-drained soil. May be seeded. Makes thick cover of grassy plants with small yellow flowers. Takes extended heat but goes out in heavy frost. Improved with water and some fertilizer. See Wesley Palms hillsides on Beryl St., Pacific Beach.

*Nepata mussini*, Mussinmint. 12". Dense blanket of gray foliage contrasts with spikes of blue flowers in summer. Another bloom after pruning. Wants sun and dryness.

*Pelargonium peltatum*, Ivy Geranium. 12"-15". 30° to 40°. Many-colored trailers that take all soils. Have deep root that needs water inland, little on the coast. Fire retardant, if without dry undergrowth. Select colors with restraint. Set 15" to 18" part.



*Pyracantha*, Santa Cruz Prostrate. 18". 5° to 10°. Low evergreen spreading to 6'. Fine foliage, white flowers in March to April. Masses of large red berries, November to February. Sun.

*Raphiolepis indica*, var. Springtime. Indian Hawthorn. 3'-5'. 10° to 20°. Pink bloom January to April, on moderately fast growing evergreen shrubs. Blooms are lighter color inland. Takes sun and salt air on coast.

*Rosmarinus officinalis prostratus*, Dwarf Rosemary. 15". 5° to 10°. Spreading dark-green herb for full sun. Takes extreme heat or cold. Needs little water after start. Sheet of light blue flowers April and May. Variety Lockwood has lighter leaves, brighter blooms. Set 2' apart.

*Sollya heterophylla*, Blue Bell Creeper. 20° to 30°. Trailing evergreen with shining leaves and small bright blue bells. Twists like Star Jasmine, so should make a good cover. Likes moisture.

*Trachelospermum jasminoides*, Star Jasmine. 18"-24". 10° to 20°. Vining evergreen that spreads to 5'. Needs shade in warm lands. Shining leaves back whorls of fragrant white flowers April to July. Likes good soil and water, no wind. Slow to spread. Set 3'.

*Vinca major*, Myrtle or Periwinkle. 12". -20° to -10°. Trailing stems of glossy, dark-green leaves spread to 3'. Lavender-blue flowers spring and fall. Invasive. Needs more water in sun. Deep roots, drought resistant, takes weed chemicals. No pests.

*Vinca minor*, Dwarf Myrtle. 6". Smaller all over. Has white, wine, red or dark blue blooms. Set 12"-24".

*Xylosma senticososa*. 6'-8'. 10° to 20°. Billowing evergreen shrub good in heat, shade or cold. Fine shining bronze-green leaves with reddish tinge. Takes any soil. Has no pests. Always lovely.

picture, with touches of color here and there. Face down the tree with mounds of White Rock Rose, mentioned before, or the felty-gray foliage of the Cudflower, *Helichrysum petiolatum*. Clumps of the white and gray Morning Glory would be handsome here too. Use the stiff stems of English Lavender for accent and round off again with sage, thyme and nutmeg geranium. Let *Nepeta mussini*, Mussinmint, send fingers of blue between the steps and finish the top with a carpet of chamomile. Many herbs have real value in the garden scene. The main slope in the sketch could be covered with yellow flowered hypericum or with the trailing white iceplant. *Delasperma alba*, Asparagus Fern. *A. sprengleri*, or the Blue Periwinkle, *Vinca major* would also do well. The gray-green leaves of Pineapple Guava, *Feijoa sellowiana* would serve for a background tree in this situation.

#### ABOUT OUR COVER . . .

Neal Crozier, a Pacific Beach artist who has painted all over Mexico and Europe, created this month's cover to highlight our hillside landscape issue. The brilliant scarlet-splashed Parrot's Beak that highlights the entrance to Wesley Palms, the retirement center in Pacific Beach, inspired the montage.

## AN AUTOMATIC FERTILIZER

A NEW process of coating ordinary soluble chemical fertilizers with a permeable membrane may be the best news yet for both indoor and outdoor garden plants. When these coated fertilizer particles come in contact with water, the moisture is absorbed and dissolves the chemical within the coating, causing the particle to swell. The nutrients slowly come through the membrane as more moisture enters the swollen particle.

As one can see, the chemical fertilizer is dispensed very slowly as one waters the plant, which means the plant is automatically fertilized every time it is watered! This system is ideal because the nutrients are regulated on a steady basis which eliminates the guess work of knowing when to fertilize.

Enough coated fertilizer can be applied to the soil surface at one time to last up to six months. It is possible to apply larger quantities of these coated materials because the nitrogen and other elements are released very slowly. As much as one tablespoon can be applied to a 5 or 6 inch pot and two tablespoons to a 7 or 8 inch pot even if the analysis of the fertilizer is high (over 30 per cent total nutrients). The same amount of fertilizer added in an uncoated form would kill most pot plants, therefore, one feels safe in using coated fertilizers.

Of course, organic fertilizers such as hoof and horn or blood meal are relatively slow acting also, but these organic types have the disadvantage of causing an odor when they break down. Coated fertilizers afford no such odor problems which is especially important indoors.

Fertilizing shade plants out of doors is not difficult with coated fertilizers. Five to seven pounds per 100 square feet of bed of a high analysis coated fertilizer is ample to keep the plants green for four to six months. When fertilizing single plants which may cover one square yard, use one half pound or about a cup of coated material.

*All questions concerning product information should be sent to The Editor, California Garden, Balboa Park, San Diego 1, California.*

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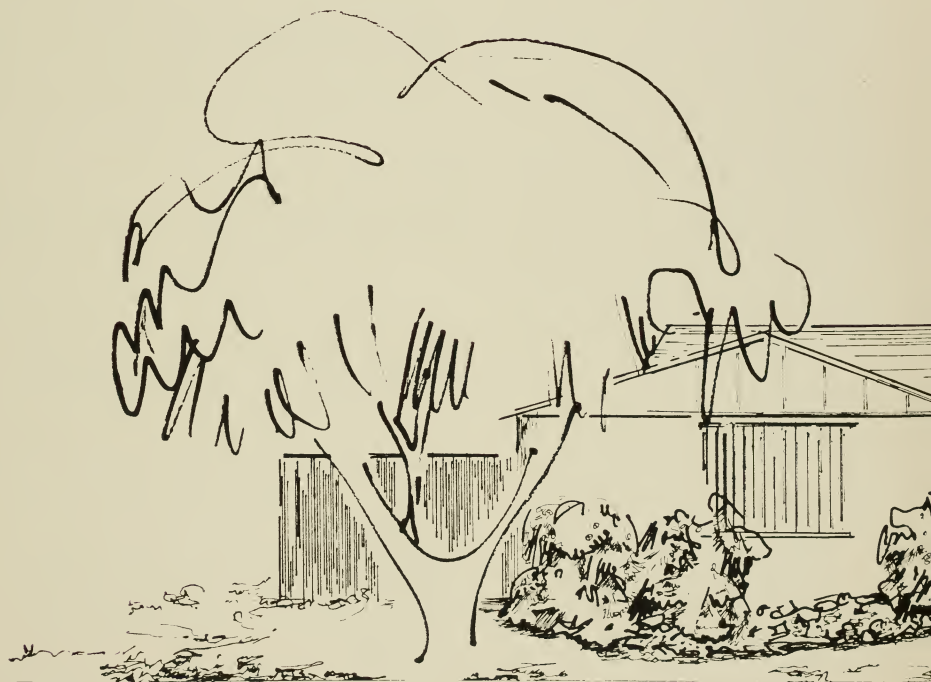
# IMAGINATION BRIGHTENS YOUR OUTDOOR LIVING

By Brian Wyckoff and Bill Faringhy

**T**O MOST simply show the thinking behind a landscape design, we chose a simple problem—a home in a retirement community.

In such a community, we will be planning the home for a couple over 50 years of age, still vigorous, but wishing to take life a bit easy. There will be no small children to raise, nor other complications in the pattern of life or the landscape.

To further simplify the problem, we selected a home in Seven Oaks, the Rancho Bernardo retirement community just east of Highway 395 near Lake Hodges, with all of the services of other developments within the City of San Diego and



## *es to follow when landscaping your own home*

the added advantages to the landscape architect of underground telephone, electric and television cables. There are no distracting utility poles to interfere with the home's individual choice of landscape design.

The design we chose could be adapted easily to any typical small family dwelling. With a few minor alterations or additions, this landscape design also could be tailored for children, pets and many specialized outdoor functions such as games, gardening hobbies and utility areas.

Our first consideration was the relationship established by the house to the outdoor areas of ac-

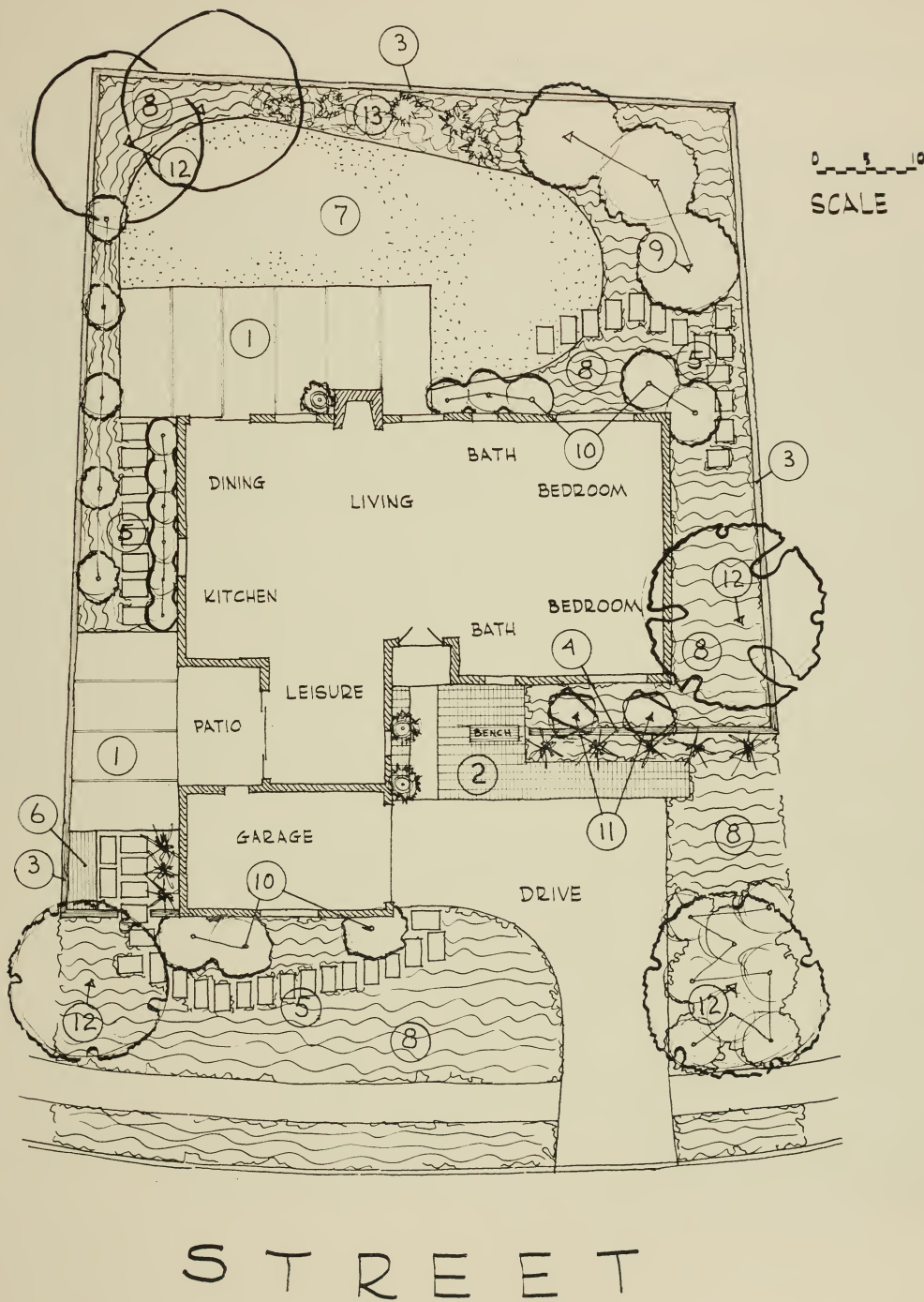
tivity and the residents' needs for circulating through these areas. Next came the relative importance of each area.

Equally important was the setting of a landscape theme that would lend cohesiveness to the overall design, something to lend individuality to the home while blending with the house's architecture.

Our arrangement and design can be seen in the drawing on the next page, where we have considered only the fundamentals. In the Aug.-Sept. issue, we will suggest exact kinds of plants and flowers and trees, as well as the details of construction, irrigation and drainage.

Imagination in landscaping and gardening is the simplest way to add a spark of individuality to today's tract home. The new homeowner can take advantage of the huge savings from mass-produced housing and still retain his own custom-built appearance by applying some very basic rules to his outdoor living space. To give our readers some perspective on the problem, we have asked two bright young San Diego landscape architects for their opinions on the subject. This is the first of a three-part series.







TRY THIS LANDSCAPE PLAN DESIGNED FOR EASE  
OF LIVING, SIMPLE MAINTENANCE AND MORE  
THAN A LITTLE INDIVIDUALITY OF STYLE

- (1) Paved outdoor patios extend the indoor areas of main activity. Note the paving pattern which makes the areas seem wider.
- (2) Brick pavement enhances and enlarges the entrance. Filling in between concrete and house reduces watering and maintenance problems: Plants in tubs add greenery. Paving along edge of driveway facilitates movement around parked cars. The addition of a bench near the doorway would create an inviting appearance.
- (3) Six-foot fence is for protection and privacy for both indoors and outdoors.
- (4) The portion of the fence in front of the house can be made into a decorative screen, which not only creates privacy and seclusion for the front bedroom, but also makes a backdrop for the view of the plants from inside.
- (5) For access through the garden, paving blocks are more interesting and less rigid in appearance than solidly paved walks.
- (6) Cabinet containing trash cans may be used for outdoor work bench.
- (7) Nothing can really substitute for the use and appearance of a lawn, but keep it small and have time to enjoy it.
- (8) Low ground cover supplements lawn, and adds feeling of spaciousness. Most species require mowing.
- (9) Large shrubs fill in far corner of lot. Fruit-bearing species of shrubs or small trees could be used.
- (10) Medium shrubs soften building lines, can be selected to add color with fruits, flowers or foliage.
- (11) Small graceful trees make a peaceful outlook from the front bedroom.
- (12) Taller trees add beauty and vertical dimension to the overall view of the site.
- (13) Everyone likes a flower garden.  
Other plants to be selected according to suit particular needs of the job.

**PLANT DISEASES:** *Black spot, a serious and contagious fungus disease that attacks roses, killing leaves, reducing blooms and weakening plants, can be prevented. Use a fungicide from early spring throughout the summer at seven-day intervals under average conditions, applying according to label directions. Gather up and burn infected leaves as they appear.*

*Powdery mildew is another fungus that affects young leaves*

*and buds. Spread by the wind, it thrives best under still, humid conditions—a good reason to avoid watering in the evening, and for locating your rose garden in a windy spot.*

*To give your plants maximum anti-fungus protection, spray when the air is still, early in the day so that foliage will dry quickly. Avoid spraying before a rain. Be sure to cover both sides of all leaf surfaces and stems.*



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## County Fair Boosts Prize Money for Annual Flower Show; New Categories Added for Finer Exhibit Starting June 28

APPROXIMATELY 2,100 exhibitors will compete for \$28,000 in prize money at the 1963 San Diego Country Fair flower show, according to Robert G. Lamp, show superintendent. The Fair and show will run 10 days, June 28 to July 7.

"We have added \$2,800 in prize money this year, a 10 per cent increase over last year. Some of this is due to the addition of two new classes," Lamp explained.

The new categories are Gloxinias and Coleus Display, and Succulent Display, in Classes 68 and 73 respectively.

Further growth of the flower show, already the West's largest floral spectacle, is indicated by the fact that 17 florists are competing, five more than in 1962.

Already many of the landscape garden entries and other feature exhibits in the flower show are being installed or are completed. These will total 130, Lamp said.

About 2,000 participants will also compete in four major categories, namely Specimen Blooms, Arrangements, Corsages, and Individual Hanging Baskets and Potted Plants.

Lamp said the Landscape Garden (Class 87) will offer a first prize of \$500, which is \$100 more than first prize last year. A total of \$2,600 is being offered in this class alone.

"It should be obvious to the general public and exhibitors alike that we are working constantly to increase the opportunities for competitors and to improve and enlarge the flower show," Lamp said.

Actually there are three major divisions of competition in the flower show, Open, Amateur and Rose. Open has 43 classes, Amateur 26, and five.

First money of \$200 or more will be awarded to winners in these

Open Division classes: Begonia Display, Tuberous Begonia Display, Carnation Display (Cut Flowers), Cut Flowers by Commercial Grower, Dahlia Display by Commercial Grower (Cut Flowers), Florist and Grower Association Display, Gladiolus Display (Cut Flowers), Landscape Garden (Tropical), Lath House Display, Nursery Display (Retail), Orchid Display (Cut Flowers), Orchid Display by Grower, Outdoor Living, Rose Display (Cut Flowers), Rose Garden Display, Tropical Display.

Amateur Division includes such classes as: Dahlia Display (Cut

Flowers), Fuchsia Display, Garden Club Display (Amateur), Patio Garden Display, Hanging Basket Display, Potted Plants, Miniatures, Flower Arrangements (Amateur), Corsages, Specimen Blooms, Semi-Cactus, Dahlia Arrangements, Pompons, Informal Decorative and Cactus.

The Rose Division, presented in cooperation with the San Diego Rose Society, features competition in blooms and arrangements, for such varieties of roses as hybrid teas, floribunda, grandiflora, and miniature.

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### *Cactus & Succulent Society of America 10th Bi-Ennial Convention Due in S.D.*

*The Tenth Bi-Ennial Convention of The Cactus and Succulent Society of America, Inc. will be held in San Diego July 9, 10, 11, and 12, 1963. Most of the activities will take place at the El Cortez Hotel or depart from there.*

*Tuesday, July 9, 1963 Registration will start at 9 a.m.*

*Wednesday, July 10 Leave the hotel at 7 a.m. by chartered bus east to Coyote Wells then through Anza-Borrego Park, Vallecitos Stage Depot, Julian and return. Box lunches will be provided.*

*6:30 p.m. dinner at the Hotel with program and door prizes.*

*Thursday, July 11 A visit to the Natural History Museum and the Zoo. There will be a group barbeque in the Zoo picnic area.*

*Friday, July 12 9 a.m. Convention Session El Cortez Banquet Room.*

*Afternoon: Delegates Meeting.*

*Evening: Group dinner and election of Queen and King.*

*July 13 and 14 Post Convention trip to Baja California.*

*This is the first time a Cactus and Succulent Convention has been held in San Diego. In 1961 the Convention was held in Mexico City and 400 Delegates from around the world attended. The Palomar Society is responsible for the convention being held here as the president of that society requested it at the 1961 Convention. The San Diego Society had not been formed at that time but now it is a very active group and meets the first Saturday of the month in the Floral Building in Balboa Park.*

*Anyone interested in the fascinating study of Cacti is invited to attend.*

**Cleoves Hardin**  
S.D. Cactus & Succulent Society

# A Calendar of Care

## • BEGONIAS

- \*A leafing program
- \*A little more light?
- \*Stakes for tuberous
- \*Prepare for the fair

HAVE you noticed any of your rex begonia rhizomes being reluctant to leaf out? This happens sometimes, to the best of growers.

The begonias should have produced some new leaves by now. If they have failed to do this—give them a shock by changing the soil in which they grew last year; water well and then give them a little more light. Not direct sun—because that will be the fatal blow—but just additional, filtered sunlight. Do not keep them wet, or they will decay; just moist, will be right for them.

### TAKE OUT THE OLD

If the rhizomes have become leggy, remove the old section and keep between two and three inches of the younger, "growing end."

Many growers have given this name to the ends of fern rhizomes as well as begonia rhizomes—as that is where the beauty lies and of course, is the more desirable.

The tuberous begonias may need to be given stakes, if the stalks are unwieldy. Be careful about placing the stakes, so as not to damage the tuber, or decay will set in.

Keep all begonias well watered and protected from sun and dry winds, from now until October. A gradual decrease of waterings may



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# Bennett's

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Keep the water off of the plant. Just let it soak into the ground. At this stage, dahlias want lots of water. Size depends on it.

#### TIED TO STAKE

In addition to the regular feeding, cultivating, watering and spraying, you will have found it advisable to keep the plant tied to the 6-foot stake placed there for the support that will be needed more and more as the plant thrives, and as the bursting blossoms get bigger and bigger. Tie each cane securely, but loosely enough to grow away from the stake.

The blossoms will repay you for all the care. The potash will give the canes strength. The superphosphate boosts the color. That last dash of bloodmeal will give it the final shove for size.

Don't be tempted to put on more bloodmeal, or earlier, any fertilizer with a high percentage of nitrogen. Just enough nitrogen—and that may already be in the soil—is needed to keep the plant blooming until the big day.

And, big it should be. Maybe 11 inches across, or maybe as much as 13 or 14!

Oh yes, the same treatment for all your other dahlias will cause them to do their utmost, too.

Larry Sisk  
*San Diego County  
Dahlia Society*

## ● FUCHSIAS

- \*Achieve striking results
- \*Misty spray answers dry day
- \*Try fish emulsion
- \*Mix in with ferns

AS WE approach the June-July peak blooming season for Fuchsias the good gardener already will have pinched and guided them into the proper conformation for their type and place in the garden. Bush, tree or espalier varieties should be groomed and well placed for back ground or color effects, not left looking careless, straggly, ragged and unkempt.

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containers are most easy to shape and move about where they will thrive best and grace otherwise dull spots in your garden. And striking effects are easily achieved with some of the light-colored or orange varieties thus.

With the advent of hot weather, more than ordinary watering is most important, especially in the case of container plants and the occasional warm drying winds. Even with cool days and nights your baskets and containers (other than metal) may be dangerously dry in this semi-desert area unless watched carefully. Both under and upper sides of foliage should be sprayed sharply for moisture as well as dislodging insects and regular slow deep watering every few days to leech out in-

jurious minerals is advisable in this section.

#### MISTY

When humidity is very low on hot days, Fuchsias love best some mist around them, as from a fogging system, that simulates the rain-forest atmosphere of their natural habitat.

When fed every two or three weeks a good Fish Emulsion type fertilizer they usually bloom well, rest a little and bloom again all season without any of the special foods or concentrates sometimes used for shows or displays.

Fuchsias are remarkably free from plant diseases when given good slightly acid soil, partial shade or filtered sunlight, and a regular adequate supply of moisture and food.

In damp cool weather worms and caterpillars are sometimes troublesome, but easily controlled with sprays of D.D.T. If thrip, white fly, mites, red spider, or aphids get started on non-vigorous, or neglected plants most authorities advise a spray containing Malathion as very effective. Try for unusual garden effects with the infinite and striking new varieties of Fuchsias interspersed with ferns or bright hanging baskets under trees and the result may amaze and delight you.

Morrison W. Doty  
*S.D. Fuchsia Society*

except for one or two growers, and such blooms as Memorium, Royal Highness and other many-petalled roses were not in good form. Grandifloras and floribundas tended to be a little late for many growers.

In spite of this, the Show was the most successful ever held locally. In every department, entries and numbers of blooms were doubled or tripled over previous years. The venue of the show was changed from the Conference Building to the Electric Building and some doubt was expressed as to the possibility of making a showing in these much larger quarters.

As it turned out, there were over 2000 entries and over 500 individual blooms. The number of arrangements was doubled and there were eight entries in the new table arrangement class. All in all, it was a show of which the San Diego Rose Society can be justifiably proud.

#### QUEEN OF SHOW

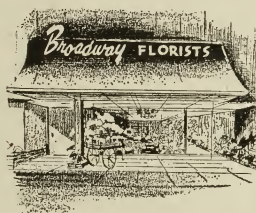
Queen of the Show was won by a truly magnificent bloom of Columbus Queen—a 1963 introduction with a great future as an exhibition rose. It is interesting that most of the other top awards went to roses of established reputation such as Angel Wings, Charlotte Armstrong, White Knight and Joanna Hill. Top grandifloras were Roundelay, Montezuma and El Capitan while tried and true Lillibet made a clean sweep of floribunda honors.

One wonders how much attention the judges pay to the point of novelty. Too often a rose is selected a winner with attention only to perfection of exhibition form and too little to the attainment of excellence characteristic of the variety—and to novelty.

#### GARDENING

Returning now to your own rose garden, most of the onerous chores of the year are passed. Bushes have been planted, mulched and the spray and fertilizer program is underway. Except for selecting a potted rose once in a while to fill in a bare spot, it is time to relax and enjoy your garden and the constant supply of magnificent flowers for living room and table.

I am more and more convinced that constant early washing of the leaves with very dilute solutions of insecticides, mildew preventatives and foliar food, is extremely valuable, contributing as it does to the



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## ● ROSES

- \*Comments on the Show
- \*A program of protection
- \*20 minutes each morning
- \*Rust prevention

THE SAN DIEGO Rose Society Spring Show was held in the Electric Building, Balboa Park, April 13, 14. In the light of experience at this show, it is interesting to assess growing conditions. Spring 1963. This has been a cool spring and many of the plants of which we expected much did not enter their blooming period in time for the Show.

Inland, conditions were somewhat more favorable. For example, Tropicana was late for the show,

# BOOK TOURS

Conducted by Alice W. Heyneman

*The Ageless Relicts.* By Norman Taylor. St. Martin's Press, N.Y., 1962. 115 pages, \$3.95.

This interesting little volume, deviating a bit in subject from the usual run of gardening books, is nevertheless the work of a writer of straight garden material. His "Garden Guide," and "Encyclopedia of Gardening" are well known, and he has been showered with honors by such horticultural organizations as the Massachusetts Horticultural Society and the New York Botanic Garden. This particular book, however, is a popular history of none other than our own Sequoia—both *gigantea*, the Big Tree, and *sempervirens*, the redwood.

The publishers say happily that the book blends scholarship and romance, and this is a fair statement. I should say that the scholarship—while soundly present (as witness distribution tables, extensive bibliography, and the fossil researches of Asa Gray)—still takes second place to the actual story of the trees, from discovery, through grave and sometimes fantastic tribulations, right down to the present day. And after all, Mr. Taylor's sub-title is "The Story of Sequoia."

The tale starts, then, with the first viewing of a stand of Big Trees (the one now known as the Calaveras Grove) by a hunter out tracking game: hopefully grizzlies. It took plenty of meat to feed the builders of the canals and sluiceways, in 1852, which had to bring water from up-country rivers to the mushrooming mining camps. The hunter's name was Dowd; long years after—in 1904 as a matter of fact—a chronicle was published claiming that the trees had been seen in 1833,—but by then Dowd

had the credit and nobody was much interested.

But in '52 stories about the trees spread like wildfire; even the staid *London Times* was fascinated, and it was excitedly discussed in the Royal Horticultural Society.

## MUIR MARVELLED

Meanwhile Murphy's Camp, nearest the trees, and a relatively civilized community, found that it needed a hotel. A somewhat rudimentary one was built, and began to entertain visitors of curious or scientific bent, among them such disparate personalities as the Duke of Sutherland, Horace Greeley, Henry Ward Beecher, and pundits from both Harvard and Yale, who came to marvel at the giants which were to 100 feet in circumference and often 300 feet tall. (*Sequoia sempervirens*, the Coast redwood—which had been discovered a good deal earlier—was taller, but John Muir's tribute "Nature's forest masterpiece" was for *Sequoia gigantea*, the Big Tree.)

For many years only two groves of these were known: Calaveras and Mariposa, and it was these two that acquired fame. (Eventually over 70 groups were found—all on the west slopes of the Sierra, at from 4000 to 7000 feet, and all somewhat isolated from one another.)

Despite this rarity the first thing that happened—human nature being what it is—was that showmanship of the greatest ruthlessness came into play. Within a year—by the summer of '53—the chopping down and the desecration began. It wasn't easy to fell a giant 300 feet high and 96 feet in circumference, but somehow, and with the greatest ingenuity, it was done; great swathes of the forest were wrecked

in the process, and for the Fourth of July of '54 some 49 people danced on the stump of a butchered giant. As much of the bark as could be salvaged from the tree's crash was peeled off, sent to San Francisco, and there put together again to the height of 21 feet for the entertainment of a hitherto incredulous public.

## A SLOW DEATH

More and bigger trees were then cut; one known to the Indians as The Mother of the Forest was denuded of bark up to 116 feet and then left standing to die a slow death. Meanwhile the bark was re-erected as a full scale tree in gigantic conservatories successively in New York and London. Soon smaller (but still dismayingly large) chunks of bark were set up as trees in Paris, Philadelphia, Boston and Chicago.

The lumber interests were also aroused; fortunately it was discovered—though not as soon as it should have been!—that the wood was brittle and almost useless for building. But by then great gouges had been cut or dynamited in the forest. Eventually protection for the groves was demanded and obtained, but it was a long, tough fight to achieve the status of today, with 93% of the trees in protected groves.

## SQUIRRELS HELP

Foresters and naturalists have studied these fascinating survivals

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so well that almost no trees are as well known. From the *How* and *When* of the germination of seed (largely assisted here by squirrels) to the fabulous researches on their nearly unbelievable longevity the pursuit of knowledge has gone on. Conservationists worried because of the great scarcity of young small trees; judicious thinning of the other, smaller evergreens began to bring light to the forest floor, and various other man-made factors disturbed this same floor—too solid for germination—so that seedlings began to take root and young trees to grow.

Now the process is on a scientific basis in the hands of the Forest Service and Park Rangers. (Here it is interesting to note that in the first furor of discovery, seeds were sent by enthusiasts to England, where they took root, and now, mostly the same size, there examples of *Sequoia gigantea* in great estates from Scotland to Devon; they are all about 4 feet in diameter and 100 feet tall. But in all of America east of the Sierra, where fog and steady coolness are lacking, there are no Sequoias at all.)

Mr. Taylor takes up the impact of the scholar Asa Gray on our knowledge of the trees' age. He discusses the permanent naming—after several false starts—of the genus, and the locale of the protected groves of both Big Tree and redwood. Gradual recognition of the need for protection and conservation *did* come, but most tardily in the case of *S. sempervirens*, the redwoods. These, of course, besides being the tallest trees extant, were possessed of fantastically valuable wood for timber, and the early exploitation of the trees was completely ruthless. Princely fortunes were made while the conservationists vainly tore their hair. But by 1920 responsible lumber companies were beginning to include professional foresters on their staffs, and the Save-The-Redwoods-League was born—a mighty voice ever since on behalf of the trees.

Now the finest groves of Sequoia are protected forever. The redwoods—in their stands near the coast from Monterey to Southern Oregon—have their preserves in a chain of State Parks. Cutting, outside these, does go on, but it is in the main intelligent, and with continued reforestation survival seems assured.

Norman Taylor has produced a well written book and tells an absorbing story. It is highly recommended.

A.W.H.

*A Picture Dictionary for the Home Gardener.* By Andree Vilas Grabe, Hill and Wang, New York, 1963. \$4.95. 168 pages.

If you long for country living in miniature, complete with vegetable, fruit and flower garden; or just a private place outside your house where you can live, eat, and "give expression and dimension" to your life, this is the book to give you the ideas, inspiration and information.

Mrs. Grabe is not a California gardener, but her book is a general one to be used anywhere in the temperate climate. You have the feeling that she is writing from experience, and that she started from scratch, and learned what she knows the hard way. She does not give the impression of being a learned horticulturist, but is one of the millions of amateurs who wants

to know more, and is passing on what he has learned.

She begins with the premise that one plans a low-maintenance, small space garden that is customary with new tract homes. She takes for granted that you are busy, but want all the advantages of a garden without spending too much time on it.

She is willing to use crushed stone and gravel for ground cover, and recommends it where the soil is poor or shallow. By placing plants, small pools, raised beds, borders and potted plants according to good landscaping plans, which she illustrates with pictures, she evolves gardens that make all that she set out to fit into this country living in miniature.

#### BUSHEL BASKET

She concentrates on getting the most out of space and money. She even finds ways to plant in stony, hard pan or sloping lots. One of the most effective being filling a bushel market basket such as used for fruit, with soil, putting a plant in it, and sinking it into a hole dug in the side of a slope or into the shallow or hard pan soil. The basket disintegrates by the time the plant is firmly rooted and it has enough good soil to grow well.

Her salad gardens in small, but rich beds or boxes are most delectable. The dwarf fruit trees in her arrangements are both decorative and productive.

She takes up planting from seed, propagation, division, offsets, cuttings and ground layering, and illustrates with pictures.

Two pages of common gardening terms such as: biennial, evergreen, and racemes, which might puzzle a new gardener are included.

#### HANDY REFERENCE

But the greater part of the book is the picture dictionary of plants most often used in gardens, most of which grow in Southern California. She divides them into: perennials and biennials; annuals; rock garden; trailers, ground covers and creepers; vines and climbers; shrubs, trees and hedges.

It is a good book to have around as a reference. If you see a plant you cannot identify, this will come in very handy. It is in the Floral Association library and can be checked out free to members, and for a small fee to non-members.

R.F.G.

## Bromeliads In June

In case anyone has not heard, the Floral Association now has a plant table at the regular monthly meetings. The purpose is, of course, to raise money to help support our magazine. We are trying to put plants on the table that every one will want and enjoy.

So far the interest has not been too great but we hope to please more people as we go along.

Unfortunately, we didn't have the opportunity to make a good contact in time to have a table to correspond with the program in May. In June the table will be Bromeliads!

Listen carefully to Mrs. Hunter's talk and then come prepared the following month to buy tickets on the plant table.

If there are any suggestions on what you would like to see on the table, please feel free to contact Cleoves Hardin any time at 469-3038.

# NATURE'S NOOK

... sidelights  
on the world of plants

## *Epiphyllanae*

By Mrs. Helen Steger

The subtribe, *Epiphyllanae* (ep'-ee-fe-lay-nee) is completely tree dwelling taken as its home the high branches of the tropical forests. We call these cacti epiphytes, for like their jungle neighbors, the orchids and bromeliads, they get their nourishment through their aerial roots and from the leaf mold and mosses in the crotches of the trees they inhabit. They are not parasites, because they simply live on trees, not from them. The cacti uses the trees for artificial support.

All seven genera of the subtribe *Epiphyllanae* are native to tropical Mexico, the West Indies, Central and South America.

The most outstanding of the seven genera is the genus *Epiphyllum*, with about twenty species. The Latin name (epi-upon, and phylum-leaf) which indicates that the flowers are borne upon the leaves, is a misnomer based on the interpretation of the nature of the flattened branches. There are no true leaves.

The main stems are often round and woody, whereas the branches are much flattened, often thin and leaflike, with crenate (scalloped) or serrate (marginal teeth pointing toward apex) margins, sometimes three-winged. The areoles are small, spines typically lacking in mature plants although they are plentiful on younger shoots. Flowers are usually large, night-blooming, with white petals and many elongate stamens.

Collectors especially favor the very deeply notched, fern-like stems of *E. anguliger*; the popular fragrant *E. latifrons*; grown on so many porches as a Night-blooming Cereus; *E. strictum*, a very dainty white flower with vivid crimson pistil; and the day-blooming *E. crenatum*, a wonderful basket plant with six-inch white blooms.

But, it is for the more than 3,000 named hybrids for which this genus *Epiphyllum* is noted. The hybridizers have crossed the rather modest genus *Epiphyllum* with distant relatives, genus *Heliocereus* and genus

*Selenicereus* to give us hybrids of incredible size and beauty.

### STANDARD VARIETIES

For the beginner, a dozen standard varieties are: Eden, Oriole, Padre, Latona, Vive Rouge, Scarlet Giant, *Hermosissimus*, Friedrich Werner-Beul, Sun Goddess, Conway's Giant, Gloria and Rosetta.

The small-flowered, compact plants like Rosetta are very popular because they can be used as house plants. However, there are smaller relatives of the epiphyllum which make good house plants too, such as the *Nopalxochia phyllanthoides* commonly called the Empress of Germany, a very dainty plant with rosebud pink flowers on branches scarcely one-sixth as large as the common epiphyllum hybrids.

Using this cactus the hybridizers have developed a whole race of compact growing epiphyllums, including the following: Bambi, with fuchsia-red flowers; Sea Breeze with brilliant pink flowers; Peter Pan, with fiery orange-red flowers; and Ballerina with multi-shaded salmon flowers.

### COMING NEXT MONTH . . .

*A Tree Issue — Roland Hoyt will recommend a variety of tropical trees adaptable for San Diego area, while reviewing a book of Hawaiian trees by a former San Diegan.*

*A Look at the Controversial Street Tree Planting Program in our city by a man who knows the program first hand. A Prize Winning Grower of Moth Orchids will offer some ideas on the popular hot house variety.*

*Dahlia Growers will want to read the special story of a world-famous breeder of dahlias who lives right here in San Diego County.*

*Chauncey Jerabek will offer some ways to track down that mysterious plant you've been wondering about.*

*Also The Regular Departments for Garden Care and Garden Chores.*

Also suited for house plants are the *Zygocactus* and *Schlumbergera*. The stems of these two genera are very flat, narrow, and consist of short leaf-like links in long chains. Unlike the epiphyllums, their flowers usually appear at the ends of the branches.

### LATH HOUSE VARIETIES

The larger epiphyllums are generally kept in lath houses. They can be trained as an espalier. Train the plant branches and tie to a permanent trellis of split redwood lath or to a grid of wires attached to a wall. The slender stems have a pattern all their own, and when the plants burst into bloom, the effect is unbelievable.

Epiphyllums like an open porous compost in which to grow. The soil mixture used should be equal proportions of crumbly loam, leaf-mold, gritty sand and peat-moss. For potting, tin cans and other metal containers have proven especially good as epiphyllums sometimes dry out too quickly in more porous containers. Painting the cans will make them last longer. Remember to puncture cans at base for good drainage.

While cacti are growing in spring and early summer, water enough to keep them damp, usually once a week. In late summer and fall, while the stems are maturing, a little less water should be given. Prune out heavy growth in June as epiphyllums like light and air.

An excellent and well recommended liquid fertilizer is an organic fish fertilizer. Mix one tablespoon to one gallon water. Feed cacti once a month from the first of March to the first of December. Mulch in December with steer manure.

With stem cuttings, take entire length and allow to callus over—eight to ten days. Remove buds from cuttings to permit roots to grow vigorously. Insert cuttings only slightly in soil. If tall, tie to a stake. Be sure to cut, not twist, flowers from branches to avoid injuring your cacti.

Epiphyllums flower during April, May and June. One way to enjoy these flowers is to use them for corsages. It is difficult to imagine anything more exciting for formal wear. In fact I find it difficult to imagine anything more exciting from our garden than the Epiphyllums.

# San Diego Garden Club Center

## FLORAL BUILDING BALBOA PARK

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### SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION

Third Tuesday, Floral Building, 8 p.m.  
Pres.: Mrs. Eugene Cooper 295-7938  
4444 Arista Dr., S.D. 3

### FLOWER ARRANGERS' GUILD

First Thursday, Floral Building, 7:30 p.m.  
Chairman: Mrs. Peg White 459-3551  
5951 Germaine Lane, La Jolla

### Affiliate Members 1963

#### ALFRED D. ROBINSON BEGONIA SOCIETY

Third Friday, Homes of Members, 10 a.m.  
President: Mrs. Clayton Lee 296-4845  
3911 St. James Pl., S.D. 3  
Rep. Dir.: Mrs. Anuta Lynch 298-1400  
202 Lewis, S.D. 3

#### ASTRO GARDEN CLUB

First Wednesday, Floral Bldg., 8 p.m.  
President: Arnold W. Carroll 276-1579  
1911 Erie St., S.D.  
Rep. Dir.: J. E. Henderson 274-1754  
3503 Yosemite, S.D. 9

#### CIVIC CENTER GARDEN CLUB

Third Saturday, Floral Building, 10 a.m.  
President &  
Rep. Dir.: James Saraceno 274-2628  
3366 Lloyd St., S.D. 17

#### CLASS OF SAN DIEGO BONSAI SOCIETY

Fourth Sunday, Floral Bldg., 1 p.m.  
Rep.: Crandall Condra 295-4920  
1212 Upas, S.D. 3

#### CONVAIR GARDEN CLUB

Second Wed., Floral Building, 7:30 p.m.  
President: Henry Boyd 264-1283  
6581 Broadway, S.D. 14  
Rep. Dir.: Eugene Zimmerman 277-3383  
1942 Abbe, S.D. 11

#### MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF SAN DIEGO

Fourth Monday, Floral Bldg., 7:30 p.m.  
Pres.: A. R. Blackburn 454-2507  
1640 Torrey Pines Rd., La Jolla  
Rep. Dir.: Roy C. Lawton 422-1775  
719 First Ave., Chula Vista

#### MISSION GARDEN CLUB

Pres.: Mrs. Gilbert E. Marshall, 282-8468  
4364 Ohio St., S.D. 4  
Director: Mrs. E. R. Bohe 282-7422  
3145 No. Mt. View Drive, S.D. 16

#### ORGANIC GARDENING CLUB

Third Friday, Floral Building, 7:30 p.m.  
President: Andrew Kerr 582-2499  
P.O. Box 362, Lemon Grove  
Rep. Dir.: Mrs. Hilkwitz 296-2282  
1756 Mission Cliffs Dr., S.D. 16

#### POINT LOMA GARDEN CLUB

First Friday, Silver Gate Savings &  
Loan Bldg., Ocean Beach, 10:00 a.m.  
President: Mrs. Lind Davenport 222-4601  
4430 Longbranch, S.D. 7

Vice-Pres. and Rep. Dir.:

Mrs. Karl Leonhard 222-2702  
3014 Evergreen St., S.D. 6

#### SAN DIEGO CACTUS & SUCULENT SOCIETY

First Saturday, Floral Building, 2 p.m.  
President: Harry B. Caulk 295-8540  
3326 Union St., S.D.  
Rep. Dir.: Archie Burgess 474-1659  
6269 Chadwick, S.D. 14

#### SAN DIEGO CAMELLIA SOCIETY

Second Friday, Floral Building, 7:30 p.m.  
Pres.: Mrs. Althea Hebert 466-3389  
8845 Country Club Pl., Spring Valley  
Rep. Dir.: Mrs. Lester Crowder 295-5871  
3130 Second St., S.D. 3

#### S. D. CHAPTER CALIF. ASS'N NURSERYMEN

Fourth Thursday, 7:30 p.m.  
President: Frank Antonicelli 295-2808  
1525 Fort Stockton, S.D. 3

Rep. Dir.: Bill Giacioli 582-2929

6362 El Cajon Blvd., S.D. 15

#### SAN DIEGO COUNTY DAHLIA SOCIETY

Fourth Tuesday, Floral Building, 7:30 p.m.  
Pres. & Rep. Dir.:

Mrs. R. M. Middleton 296-3246  
3944 Centre St., S.D. 3

#### SAN DIEGO COUNTY ORCHID SOCIETY

First Tuesday, Floral Building, 8 p.m.  
Pres.: J. E. Henderson 274-1754

3503 Yosemite, S.D. 9

Rep. Dir.: Elizabeth A. Newkirk

1654 La Mancha Dr., S.D. 9 274-2042

#### SAN DIEGO FUCHSIA SOCIETY

Second Monday, Floral Building, 8 p.m.  
President: Mrs. Walter Bunker 281-5027  
4721 Bancroft, S.D.

Rep. Dir.: Mrs. Mary Bray Watson  
2337 Commonwealth, S.D. 4 284-2669

#### SAN DIEGO ROSE SOCIETY

Third Monday, Floral Building, 8 p.m.  
President: Edwin Gould 454-1519

7501 Olivetas Ave., La Jolla

Rep. Dir.: Mrs. Joseph J. Kennealy  
2260 Catalina, S.D. 7 223-6183

## Other Garden Clubs

#### AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY

##### San Diego Branch

Fourth Monday, Barbour Hall, University  
& Pershing, 8 p.m.

Pres.: Dr. Hazel McBride 295-1127  
2828 Dove St., S.D. 1

##### San Miguel Branch

First Wednesday, Youth Center, Lemon  
Grove, 8 p.m.

President: Mrs. Jack Brook 466-0162  
7151 Central Ave., Lemon Grove

CARRILLO-MISSION GARDEN CLUB  
Third Thurs., United Church, 9:30 a.m.

Pres.: Mrs. Chas. Domler 283-3642  
5158 Hastings Rd., S.D. 16

#### CARLSBAD GARDEN CLUB

First Friday, VFW Hall, Carlsbad,  
1:30 p.m.

Pres.: Mrs. Doris Simpson 729-1515  
1075 Chiquapin Ave., Carlsbad

#### CHULA VISTA FUCHSIA CLUB

Second Tuesday, Norman Park Recreation  
Center, 7:30 p.m.

Pres.: Mrs. William Hook 422-6322  
133 I, Chula Vista

#### CHULA VISTA GARDEN CLUB

Third Wednesday, Norman Park Recreation  
Center, 1:30 p.m.

Pres.: Mrs. W. R. Williams 422-7627  
887 Country Club Dr., Chula Vista

#### CLAIREMONT GARDEN CLUB

Third Tuesday, Clairemont Community  
Center, 10 a.m.

Pres.: Mrs. Charles Johnson 278-1043  
4804 Mount Durban, S.D.

#### CORONADO FLORAL ASSOCIATION

No regular meeting date, Christ Church  
Parish Hall

Pres.: Capt. Frank T. Sloat 435-3325  
1111 Adella, Coronado

#### CROSS-TOWN GARDEN CLUB

Third Monday, Barbour Hall, University  
& Pershing, 8 p.m.

President: Charles Williams 284-2317  
4240 46th, S.D. 15

CROWN GARDEN CLUB OF CORONADO  
Fourth Thursday, Red Cross Bldg., 1113

Adella Lane, 9:30 a.m.  
Pres.: Mrs. H. M. Miller 435-1324

521 Country Club Lane, Coronado

#### DELCADIA GARDEN CLUB

First Wednesday, Encinitas Union  
Elementary School, 7:30 p.m.

Pres.: Mrs. Edwin C. Pickett 753-3890  
1068 Devonshire, Encinitas

DOS VALLES GARDEN CLUB (PAUMA VLY.)  
Second Tues., Members Homes, 1:30 p.m.

Pres.: Mrs. Florence Hart 742-3522  
Adams Dr., Pauma Valley

#### ESCONDIDO GARDEN CLUB

Third Fri., Women's Club House, 1:30 p.m.  
Pres.: Mrs. Charles Avery 745-2387

612 E. Eighth, Escondido

#### EVA KINWORTHY GRAY BRANCH

(BEGONIA)

Sec. Saturday, 1:30 p.m. Seacoast Hall,  
Encinitas

President: Walter Watchorn 722-3501  
1450 Hunsaker, Oceanside

#### FALLBROOK GARDEN CLUB

Last Thurs., Fallbrook Woman's Club-  
house, 1:30 p.m.

Pres.: Mrs. Karl G. Houtz 728-2932  
2150 E. Mission Rd., Fallbrook

#### GROSSMONT CENTER GARDEN CLUB

Second Mon., Grossmont Center, 10 a.m.  
Pres.: Mrs. L. E. Elson 469-8009

3451 Clavo Drive, Spring Valley

#### IMPERIAL BEACH GARDEN CLUB

Third Tues., So. Bay Com. Center, 1 p.m.  
Pres.: Mrs. Miles Bowler 424-9486

212 Daisy, Imperial Beach

#### LAKESIDE GARDEN CLUB

Third Monday, Lakeside Farm School,  
7:30 p.m.

Pres.: Mrs. Cecil Carender 448-1753  
P.O. Box 608, Lakeside

#### LA MESA WOMAN'S CLUB

(GARDEN SECTION)

Third Thursday, La Mesa Woman's Club,  
1:45 p.m.

Pres.: Mrs. J. Holland Noel 463-6795  
8415 Kappa St., La Mesa

#### LEMON GROVE WOMAN'S CLUB

(GARDEN SECTION)

First Tuesday, Lemon Grove Woman's  
Club House, 1 p.m.

Chairman: Mrs. O. R. Patterson  
8396 Golden, Lemon Grove 466-5242

#### NATIONAL CITY GARDEN CLUB

Third Wednesday, National City  
Community Bldg., 7:30 p.m.

President: Henry Dell 284-7346  
4912 Mansfield, S. D. 16

#### O. C. IT GROW GARDEN CLUB

Second Wednesday, S. Oceanside  
School Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.

Pres.: Mrs. R. D. Chaney, Sr. 722-5748  
1411 Hunsaker St., Oceanside

#### PACIFIC BEACH GARDEN CLUB

Second Monday, Home Federal  
Friendship Hall, 7:30 p.m.

Pres.: Mrs. Ernest Ambort 276-1595  
4440 Ingulf St., S.D. 10

#### POWAY VALLEY GARDEN CLUB

Pres.: Mrs. Raymond Stockes 748-2243  
14725 Espola Road, Poway

#### RANCHO SANTA FE GARDEN CLUB

Second Wednesday  
Pres.: Mrs. Charles Chapin 756-1143

Box 734, Rancho Santa Fe

#### SAN CARLOS GARDEN CLUB

Fourth Tues., Homes of Members, 1 p.m.  
Pres.: Mrs. Robert R. Tompkins

6347 Coral Lake Ave., S.D. 19 465-5959

#### SAN DIEGUITO GARDEN CLUB

Third Wednesday, Seacoast Savings  
Building, Encinitas, 10 a.m.

President: Mrs. Waldo Vogt 755-4772  
773 Barbara Ave., Solana Beach

#### SANTA MARIA VALLEY GARDEN CLUB

Second Monday, Ramona Women's  
Club House, 5th and Main, 10 a.m.

Pres.: Mrs. Nelson R. Brown 789-1034  
510 Fifth, Ramona

#### SPRINGHOUSE GARDEN CLUB

Third Thursday, Porter Hall, La Mesa  
7:30 p.m.

President: Mr. R. M. Frodahl 469-1933  
3852 Avocado, La Mesa

#### VISTA GARDEN CLUB

First Fri., Vista Rec. Center, 1:30 p.m.  
Pres.: Mrs. Frank Gillette 724-2448

1233 Cypress, Vista

#### VISTA MESA GARDEN CLUB

Second Tuesday, Linda Vista  
Recreation Center, 8 p.m.  
Pres.: Mrs. Tom Stalcup 278-0668  
3857 Antiem, S.D. 11



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